

*John G. L. Schenck to John Gray Blount*PHILADELPHIA 14th. May 1795.

Mr. John Gray Blount

Dear Sir

I received by the last post your Two esteemed favors of the 23^d. & 29th. Ultimo inclosing Captain Adams draft, for the trouble you have taken I am under particular obligation, to the Contents of yours of the 23^d. Shall pay particular attention & for that purpose have mention it to Mr Allison. to receive introduction to the Agents from the Manufacturing houses I have been employ'd Since my arrival in forwarding some Goods by Captain Worden who Sail'd from this place on Yesterday & hope that before you receive this he may have arrive Safe I have wrote to Jackson to send down all the Pork & Bacon I have on hand to be Ship'd on board of Captⁿ. Wordens Brig for this place but if the Bacon or any part of it could be exchanged for Turks Island Salt at 7½ or 8.—of Bacon for a bushell of Salt could wish it to be done & you will oblige me to exchange if it can be done on those terms, also inform upon what terms a Thousand bushells T. I. [Turks Island] Salt can be purchased for Bills on this place at 60 days sight, I wish much to have a Stock of Salt on hand for the fall in order to command the Back Country trade which I think will prove the insueing Season to be a very profitable one, as the articles, of Flour and Tobacco will be much in demand & I think high—I directed Mr. Jackson to request the favor of you that [2] that if there should be a balance In the Pear & Salt barter for you to order it to be laid out for my account in Sugarr—

I have not yet been able to form a correct opinion of the present Trade of this place, indeed every article of Merchandise appears to be an Article of Speculation, provision are said to be low in Europe & Still they appear very anxious to ship every kind, great quantitys of Salt'd Provision is Ship'd to France—I saw a letter from Lisbon dated the 6th. March which cotes [quotes] Flour from 4010[sic] to 12 Doll^s P Barrell but mentions that the prospects of their Crops was very bad & that the prospect of bad Crops throughout Europe would occasion a rise of Flour & Grain of every kind, however the article of Flour here is too high to purchase on Speculation S. [super] fine is 12 to 12½ Dollars P Barrell and said to be looking up—the prospect